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BRAZIL.

*Sanitary report from Rio.*RIO DE JANEIRO, *December 19, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you the official report for the week ended December 9. There were 309 deaths from all causes, an increase of 51; 9 deaths from *accessio pernicioso*, a decrease of 3; 5 deaths from yellow fever, an increase of 3; 7 deaths from smallpox, an increase of 1; 1 death from typhoid fever, a decrease of 3; 1 death from measles, the same as before; 2 deaths from beriberi, a decrease of 1, and 55 deaths from tuberculosis, an increase of 10. * * *

Information.—If we undertake an especial, absolute consideration of the statistical data in regard to the causes of death, we are bound to admit that the general state of health is favorable. However, comparing the corresponding period of this and of the past year, we find that the figures during the present season are distinctly unfavorable. During the month of November of the last year there were notifications of 4 cases and 1 death from yellow fever, and during the first three weeks of December, 3 cases and 1 death; during the corresponding periods of this year there were 18 cases and 11 deaths and 10 cases and 10 deaths, respectively.

In spite of the lack of intensity that yellow fever has shown in the past year, the disease began to grow slowly from the end of December. There is great probability of the increase of yellow fever in the coming months, in consideration of the uncommon continued existence of the disease during the so called winter months. This probability is increased by the extraordinary heat which we have had during the last two months. However, the heat has been interrupted from time to time by heavy showers. The effect of these rains did not last long and hot and oppressive weather speedily followed them. During November of the past year there were 26 notifications of deaths from *accessio pernicioso*, but in the corresponding month of this year there were 49. Among the cases classified under the unscientific term of *accessio pernicioso* there are doubtless many unrecognized cases of yellow fever; this increases still more the real number of yellow fever cases, and it indicates that in all probability we shall have in a short time an epidemic of yellow fever.

The state of health in the harbor, it may be especially mentioned, is, on the whole, good; there have been no cases of infectious diseases either during November or December.

Smallpox, also, has not progressed; although there still occur cases and deaths from this disease, it may be stated to be already on the decline. I see from the last lists of the notified cases that the disease is not confined to any particular part of the city.

Since last report the following-named ships have been inspected and received bills of health of this office:

December 15, bark *Rose Jones*, American, for Philadelphia. December 16, steamship *Roman Prince*, British, for New York; barkentine *Doris*, American, for Baltimore; steamship *Caravellas*, French, for New Orleans. December 17, steamship *Coleridge*, British, for New York; bark *Blandine P*, Austrian, for Savannah. December 19, steamship *Kaffir Prince*, British, for New York.

Respectfully, yours,

W. HAVELBURG, M. D.,
Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.